

Quarterly Public Meeting

SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

VASQUEZ BOULEVARD & INTERSTATE 70 (VB/I-70) SUPERFUND SITE

What is a Superfund Site?

1980 - Congress established the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA).

CERCLA is informally called Superfund.

CERCLA allows EPA to clean up contaminated sites.

EPA added VB/I-70 to the national list of Superfund Sites in 1999.

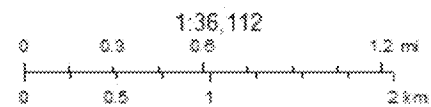
Why is VB/I-70 a Superfund Site?

Smelters left behind heavy metal
contamination in some area soils.

EPA divided the site into three operable
units:

- OU1 – Residential Properties
- OU2 – former Omaha7 Grant
Smelter area
- OU3- Former ARGO Smelter area

March 18, 2019



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus
DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

Jesse Aviles via
USDA FSA

Who is Involved?

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) – <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/vb-i70>

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) –
<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/vasquez-blvd-i70-superfund-site>

Denver Department of Public Health and Environment (DDPHE) –
<https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/environmental-health/environmental-quality/land-use-and-planning.html>

VB/I-70 Community Advisory Group (CAG) – <https://www.facebook.com/VasquezI70>

OU1 – What have we done?

Contaminants of concern – lead and arsenic in soils

Area - 4.5 square miles

Number of homes requiring sampling approx. 4,500 (45 no access)

Number of homes requiring cleaned up approx. 800 (10 no access)

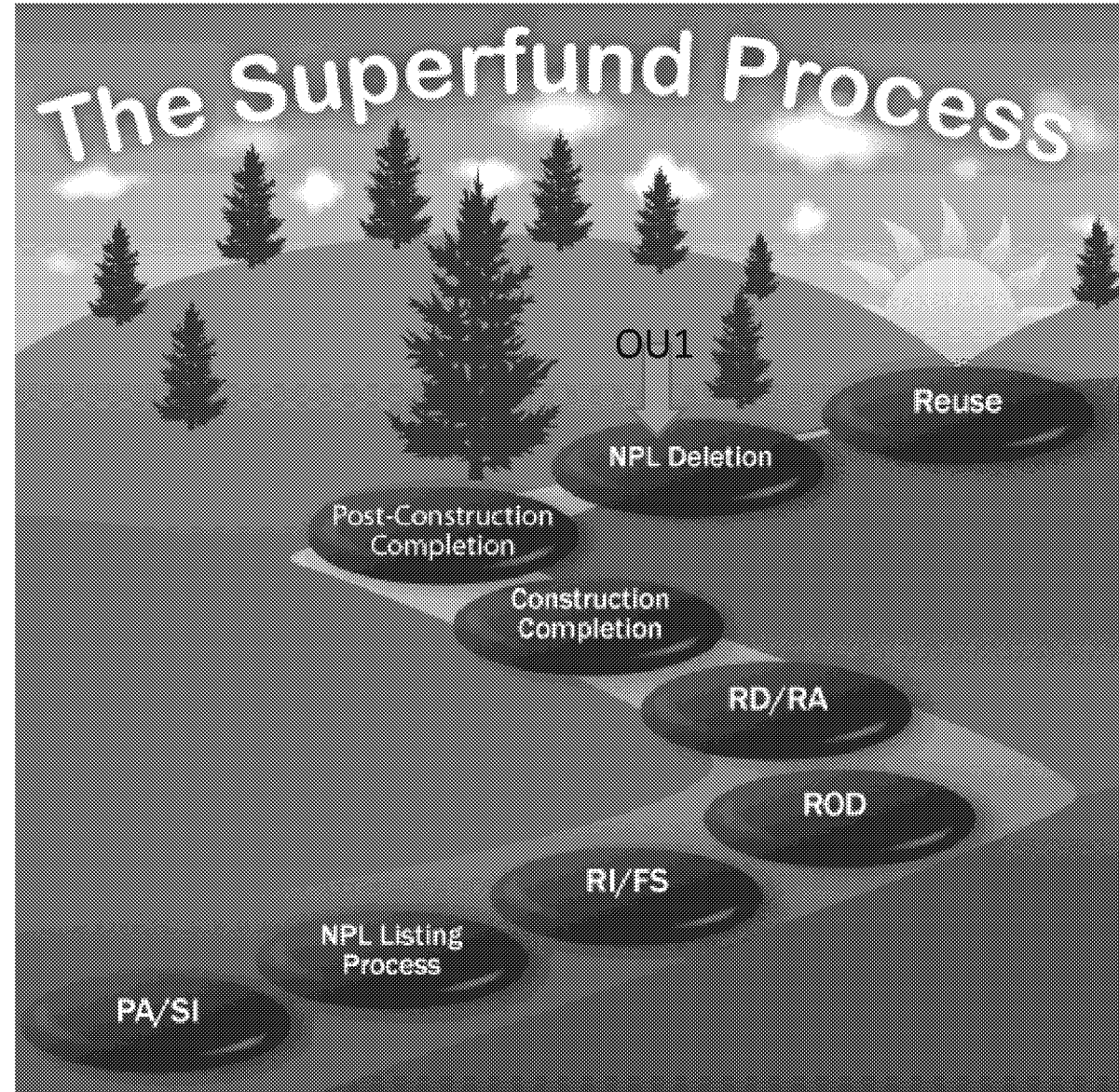
Status – complete



OU1 – What Are We Doing?

EPA is proposing to delete Operable Unit 1 (OU1), Residential Soils, from the National Priorities List of Superfund Sites.

All sampling and cleanup at residential properties in the VB/I70 boundaries is complete!



OU1- What Are The Next Steps?

Notice of Intent to Delete OU1 From the National Priorities List of Superfund Sites

- EPA published a notice of intent to delete from the National Priorities List of Superfund Sites on Feb. 6, 2018.
- EPA extended the public comment period by request on the proposed deletion to April 8, 2019.
- The final decision whether to delete and a summary of responses to public comments will be published in the Federal Register before September 2019 ends.

OU1- What Are The Next Steps?

Five-Year Review

- EPA conducts a review of the remedy at VB/I-70 every five years to ensure the remedy remains protective of human health and the environment.
- In 2019 EPA conducted the Third Five Year Review of the site.
- A site visit and interviews were done in May 2019.
- The Five Year Review Report will be complete by October 2019.

The Community Involvement Plan is also being updated.

OU2 – What have we done?

2004/05 ASARCO Soil and Groundwater Investigation

2005/06 Sediment, Surface Water and Groundwater Investigations

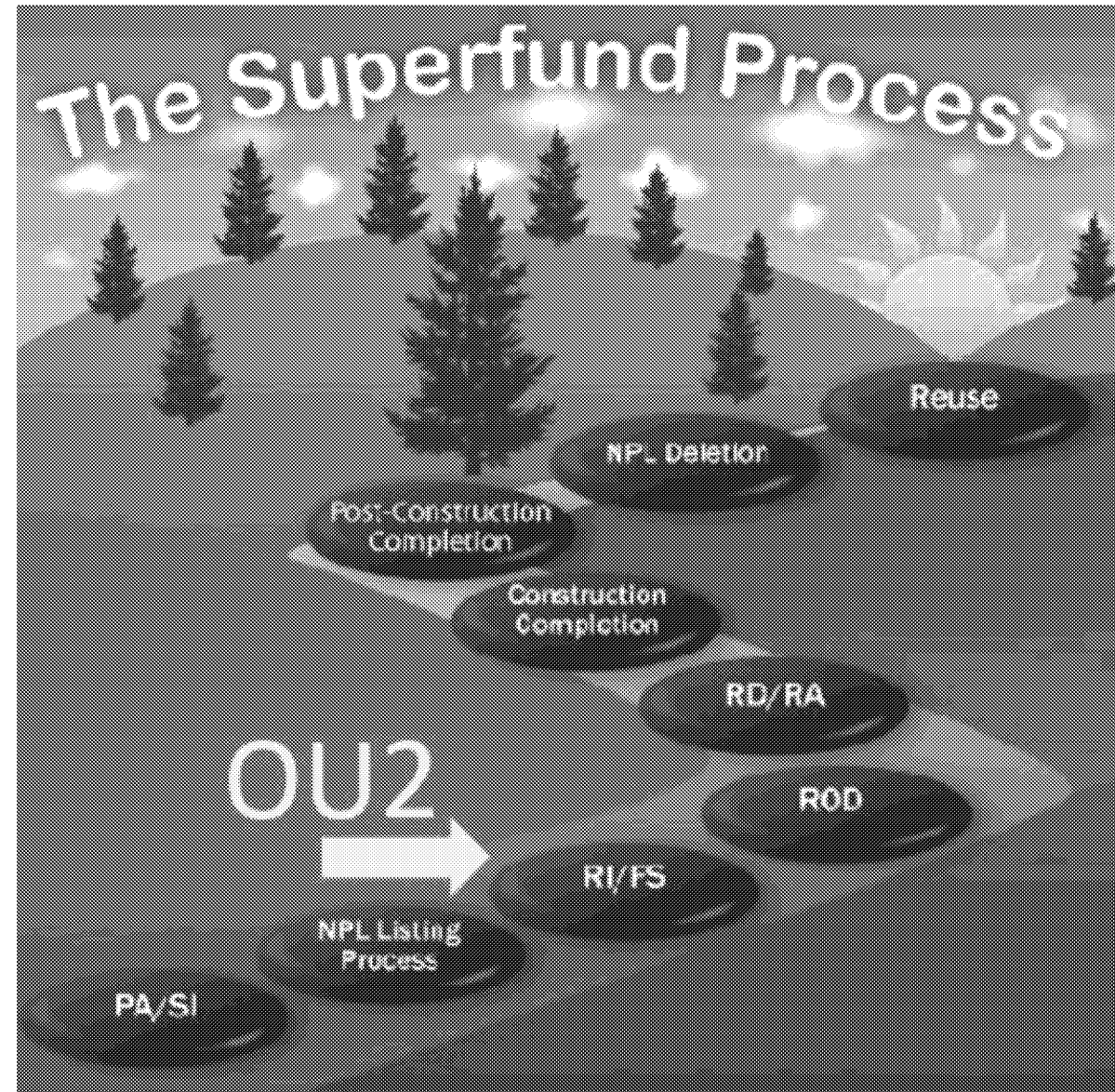
2008/09 - Remedial Investigation and Report

2009 – EPA Baseline Human Health and Screening Level Ecological Risk Assessment

2010 Feasibility Study

Globeville Landing Outfall 2012 - 2014 – EPA Groundwater Studies

2015/16 – Environmental Conditions Investigations



OU2 – Remedial Investigation landfill information

Subsurface materials typically consisted of alluvial soils without evidence of disturbance; alluvial soils mixed with brick fragments or fly ash; alluvial soils mixed with brick fragments, fly ash, woody debris, and municipal solid waste.

Landfill material found to a depth of 22 feet.

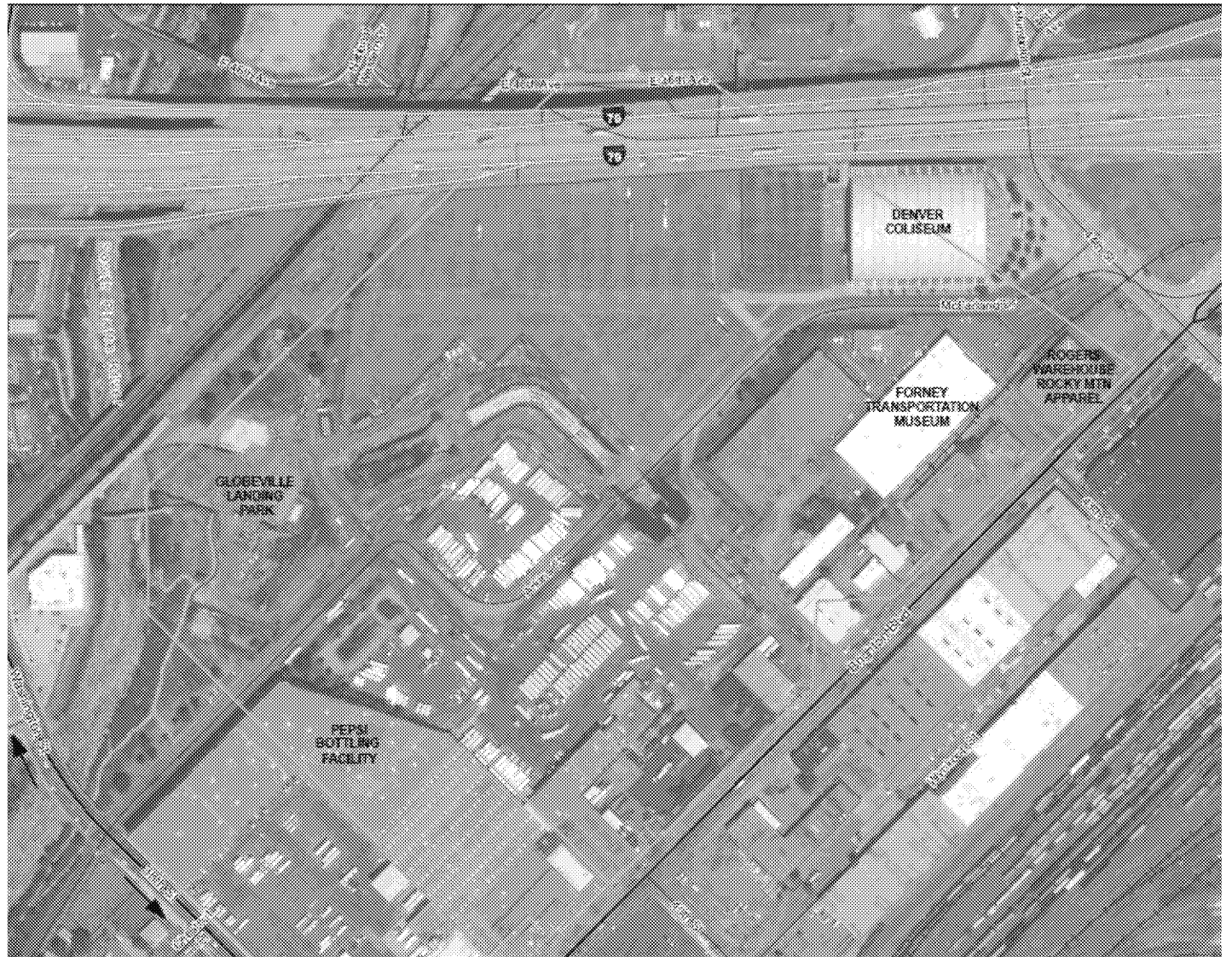
Computed volume of approximately 198,000 cubic yards.

OU2 – What are we doing?

August 2017 – EPA requested an updated Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study Report

Draft Revised Remedial Investigation scoping document submitted to EPA on February 1, 2019

First Meeting held with EPA/CDPHE on March 11, 2019, to review the scope



OU2 – What are the Next Steps

Submit Remedial Investigation scoping document (2019)

Draft Remedial Investigation Work Plan (2019)

Perform additional investigation (2020)

Submit revised Remedial Investigation Report (2020)

Submit revised Feasibility Study Report (2021)

OU3- What Have we Done?

1992 - CDPHE began assessing for environmental contamination at the former Argo smelter.

2007 - EPA issued a remedial (environmental) investigation report and a proposed cleanup plan to the public for comment.

Groundwater data was insufficient

EPA began additional groundwater sampling before issuing a final cleanup decision.

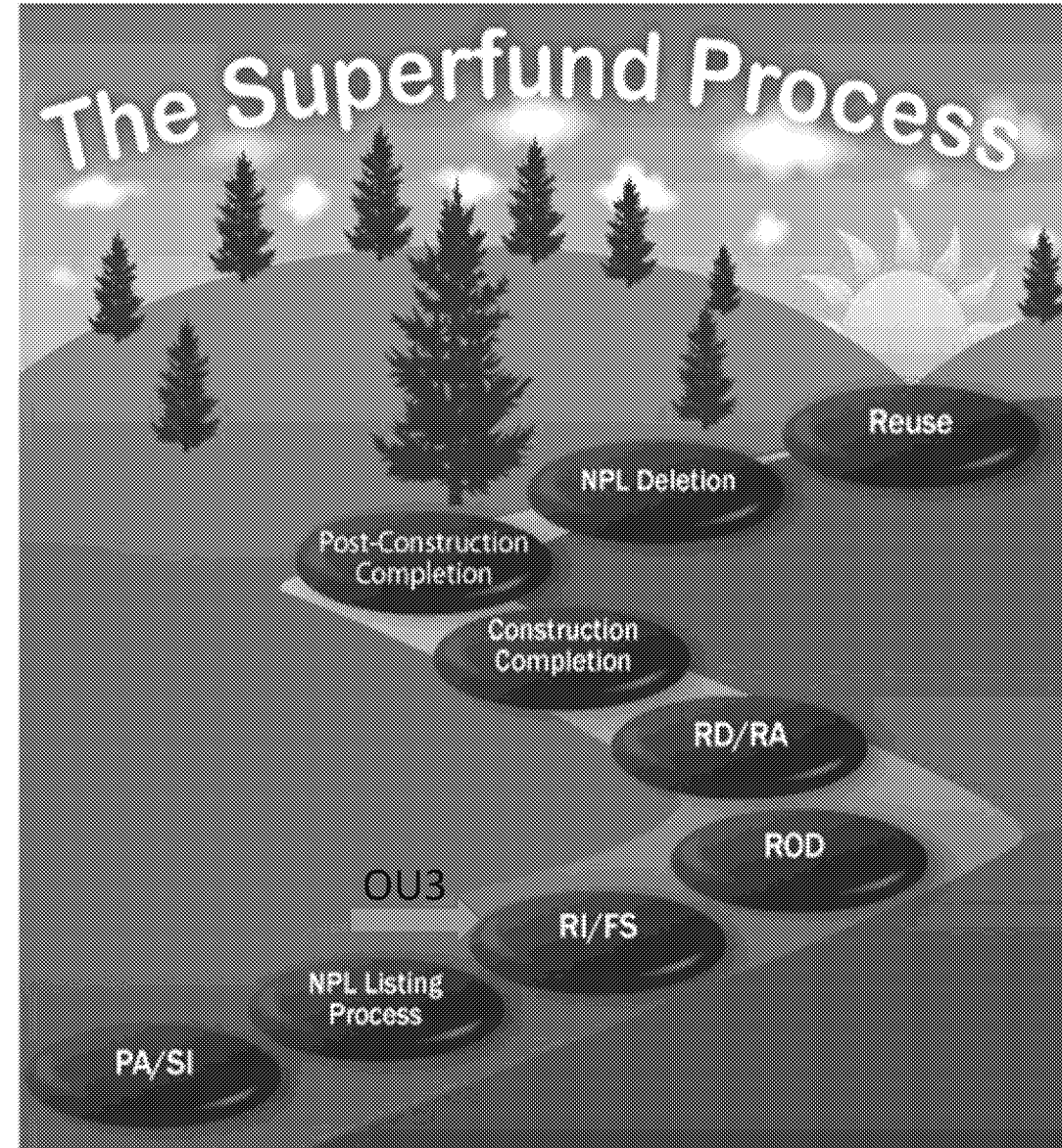
2018 – EPA updated the remedial investigation with additional groundwater data collected.

OU3- What Are The Next Steps?

EPA will issue a feasibility study report that evaluates cleanup alternatives.

EPA will issue a Proposed Plan that selects a cleanup alternative.

EPA will accept public comment on the Proposed Cleanup Plan.



Pre-CERCLA Screens

The site assessment team reviewed several reports to “to determine if a Preliminary Assessment (PA) or other further investigation is warranted”.

The information from the limited Phase II conducted by Terracon Consultants, Inc. in 2016, and the subsurface investigation conducted by Pinyon Environmental, Inc. in 2015 was used to make a determination to complete a preliminary assessment with limited sampling. The data from these reports are related to the National Western Complex.

Summary

OU1, Residential Soils (Cole, Clayton, Swansea/Elyria)

Issue: Lead and/or Arsenic in Some Residential Soils

Status: Deletion Phase

Public Comment Opportunity: No additional public comment period.

OU2, former Omaha& Grant Smelter Location (Denver Coliseum area)

Issue: Lead and Arsenic in some soils and groundwater

Status: Remedial Investigation Phase

Public Comment Opportunity: Proposed Cleanup Plan possibly in 2020

OU3, former Argo Smelter Location (NW Mousetrap area)

Issue: Soil – arsenic. GW - Cadmium, manganese, cobalt, arsenic, manganese, lead and thallium in a commercial and residential setting

Status: Feasibility Study Phase

Public Comment Opportunity: Proposed Cleanup Plan possibly in 2020